

# WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF REGULATION & LICENSING



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February 18, 2000

**Re:** Complaint #9911  
Complainant: Jeff Percy for the Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc.  
Respondent: Barbara E. Samuelson, CADCIH, CCSII

**To:** Board of Directors  
Wisconsin Certification Board, Inc.

The Executive Committee having received the results of the investigation into the alleged misconduct of and in conformity with its rules now makes the following:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

Barbara E Samuelson:

1. has been certified as a CADCIH since 1/5/1996 and as a CCSII since 8/29/1998;
2. self reported her behavior with a former client to the WCB on November 8, 1999 as recommended by Richard Gibson, MD., Manager, Mental Health Division at the Dept. of Veteran Affairs;
3. stipulated to the findings of the Dept. of Veteran Affairs' investigation;
4. received therapy at New Life Resources for multiple issues including "maintaining boundaries;" however, in early February, 2000 the respondent revoked her release of information which no longer allowed the WCB to receive information from Pam Sime, her therapist;
5. received a two week suspension at the VAMC and clinical supervision was increased to weekly supervisory sessions for a period of three months. Prior to the respondent's behavior identified in the complaint had a work record described as "Exceptional, Fully Successful, and Successful."
6. gave verbal testimony informing the WCB that she:
  - a. is currently involved in a divorce action with her husband and she moved into an apartment;
  - b. has chosen earlier in the month of February, 2000 to pursue a relationship with her former client, the one identified within the original complaint;
9. remains employed but her employer, the Zablocki VAMC, has asked for her resignation;

### **CONCLUSION**

The Executive Committee concludes that the respondent, Barbara E. Samuelson, breached the following Rules within the Counselor *Code of Conduct*:

Rule 2.2 – A counselor shall not engage in conduct which does not meet the generally accepted standards of practice.

Rule 6.1 – A counselor shall not develop, implement, or maintain exploitative relationships with current or past clients.

Rule 11.3 – A counselor who has firsthand knowledge of the actions of a respondent counselor or a complainant shall cooperate with a WCB complaint investigation or disciplinary proceeding. Failure or an unwillingness to cooperate in a WCB complaint investigation or disciplinary proceeding shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

The Executive Committee also concludes that the respondent, Barbara E. Samuelson, breached the following Principles within the Clinical Supervisor's Code of Ethics:

Principle 1.1 – AODA Clinical Supervisors do not engage in sexual or other harassment or exploitation of clients, students, trainees, supervisees, employees, colleagues, research subjects, or actual or potential witnesses or complainants in investigations and ethical proceedings.

Principle 4.1 – AODA Clinical Supervisors remain accountable to the standards of the profession when acting as members or employees of organizations.

### DECISION

Pursuant to Section V(A)(3) of the WCB Counselor Code of Conduct, Action by the Executive Committee and Section III(F)(3) of the WCB AODA Clinical Supervisors Code of Ethics, Barbara E. Samuelson's certifications as a Certified Alcohol/Drug Counselor III and Certified Clinical Supervisor II are hereby revoked.

Please be advised of your rights to appeal, hearing, and reinstatement as outlined within the Counselor *Code of Conduct*, Sections VI and VII and the AODA Clinical Supervisors Code of Ethics, Sections IV and V.

For the Executive Committee,



Jeff Percy  
Executive Director